

Claims

1 1. A system for enabling voiced utterances to be substituted
2 for manipulation of a pointing device, the pointing device being
3 of the kind which is manipulated to control motion of a cursor on
4 a computer display and to indicate desired actions associated with
5 the position of the cursor on the display, the cursor being moved
6 and the desired actions being aided by an operating system in the
7 computer in response to control signals received from the pointing
8 device, the computer also having an alphanumeric keyboard, the
9 operating system being separately responsive to control signals
10 received from the keyboard in accordance with a predetermined
11 format specific to the keyboard, the system comprising

12 a voice recognizer for recognizing a voiced utterance, and
13 an interpreter for converting the voiced utterance into
14 control signals which will directly create a desired action aided
15 by the operating system in the computer without first being
16 converted into control signals expressed in the predetermined
17 format specific to the keyboard.

1 2. A method for converting voiced utterances to commands,
2 expressed in a predefined command language, to be used by an
3 operating system of a computer, comprising

4 converting some voiced utterances into commands corresponding
5 to actions to be taken by said operating system, and

6 converting other voiced utterances into commands which carry
7 associated text strings to be used as part of text being processed
8 in an application program running under said operating system.

1 3. A method of generating a table for aiding the conversion
2 of voiced utterances to commands for use in controlling an
3 operating system of a computer to achieve desired actions in an
4 application program running under the operating system, said
5 application program including menus and control buttons, said
6 method comprising

7 parsing the instruction sequence of the application program
8 to identify menu entries and control buttons, and

9 including in said table an entry for each menu entry and
10 control button found in said application program, each said entry
11 containing a control command corresponding to said menu entry or
12 control button.

1 4. A method of enabling a user to create an instance in a
2 formal language of the kind which has a strictly defined syntax,
3 comprising

4 providing a graphically displayed list of entries which are
5 expressed in a natural language and which do not comply with said
6 syntax,

7 permitting the user to point to an entry on said list, and
8 automatically generating said instance corresponding to the
9 identified entry in the list in response to said pointing.